

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02800 252140Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 /035 W

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P 252114Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7081

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 2800

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR CA

SUBJECT: GOC LABELLING REQUIREMENTS-WHOLESALE MEAT CARTONS

PASS AGRICULTURE FAS

REF: (A) OTTAWA 2667; (B) 1919

1. AUSTRALIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER QUINN HAS INFORMED EMBASSY ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS THAT GOC HAS REPLIED TO AUSTRALIAN AIDE-MEMOIRE OF MAY 16 (REFTEL B) IN LEGALISTIC AND UNSATISFACTORY MANNER. REPLY STATES HOWEVER THAT GOC IS CONDUCTING A REVIEW OF LABELLING REGULATIONS AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET ON THIS SUBJECT WITH AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION REPS. QUINN SAID MEETING IS TENTATIVELY SET FOR WEDNESDAY JULY 30. HE ASKED WHETHER U.S. EMBASSY REPS. WOULD JOIN IN. HE UNDERSTANDS EXTAFF WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO U.S. (AND NEW ZEALAND) PARTICIPATION BUT THAT WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO REQUEST INVITATION.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES JOINT APPROACH WITH AUSTRALIANS (AND PERHAPS NEW ZEALANDERS) WILL BE EFFECTIVE WAY TO REGISTER OUR CONCERNS.

3. WHILE THE ABOVE CONCERN IS LIMITED TO BI-LINGUAL LABELLING OF WHOLESALE MEAT CARTONS, EMBASSY IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR REQUIREMENTS EMERGING FOR WHOLE-

SALE SHIPMENTS OF FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, RAW COTTON, ETC.
POSITION OF GOC IS UNCLEAR ON THESE COMMODITIES.

4. REQUEST GUIDANCE ASAP ON:

(A) SHOULD EMBASSY REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN JULY 30
MEETING?

(B) WHAT POSITION SHOULD WE TAKE ON SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE?
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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